

July 8, 1941

Mr. P. B. Holtzendorff, Jr.  
General Secretary, Y.M.C.A.  
Clemson, S. C.

Dear Holtzy:

Some time back you requested a brief statement from me as to the value of the "Y" during my student days at Clemson. I wish to reply with the following statement:

*value of "Y"*

I know of no phase of college work that was more helpful and beneficial to students when I was at Clemson than the "Y". Various forms of athletic interests, including class football, class basketball, bowling and other sports, were encouraged and sponsored by the "Y". Group conferences for discussion of paramount matters, including racial and other questions were conducted through the "Y". Various social functions were arranged through this splendid organization and its allround, wholesome program was uplifting and inspiring to every cadet. It was solely responsible for the motion pictures which were enjoyed to the fullest. In my opinion the "Y" contributed more to the happiness, welfare and proper guidance of the students than any other one thing at Clemson, and I hardly see how we could have done without it. Every cadet admired and respected Secretary Holtzendorff and appreciated deeply his excellent work and his fine leadership of men. Long may the "Y" live, and long may it continue to render such magnificent service to Clemson.

I hope you are doing nicely, and with kindest personal regards,

Very truly,

J. STROM THURMOND